

NO MORE ASSESSMENTS.

The Comptroller of the Currency Has His Say.

Stockholders in the First National Bank of Silver City Will Not be Asked to Pay Any More Assessments.

Four weeks ago THE EAGLE suggested that it might possibly do some good for the depositors in the defunct First National bank of this city to send some one to Washington to present the facts in the bank matter to the comptroller of the currency with a view to having another assessment made on the stockholders in the bank. Receiver Foster, some time ago recommended an additional assessment, but, at the time, the comptroller did not appear to consider the plan favorably. It was thought, however, by some of the depositors that, if the facts were properly laid before the comptroller, he would reconsider the matter.

The suggestion in THE EAGLE found no favor in the eyes of the comptroller of the currency, or rather the deputy and acting comptroller, O. P. Tucker, to whom the article referred to was sent a few days after its publication. Under date of September 15 that official wrote that "An additional assessment against shareholders of the First National Bank of Silver City is impossible. The comptroller's decision is final."

According to the decision of His Imperial Potency, the comptroller of the currency of the United States, the depositors in the First National Bank of Silver City must abide by his judgment, whether they ever receive another penny in dividends or not. More than two and a half years have elapsed since the failure of the bank and the depositors have received 40 per cent. on their deposits in the bank at the time of the failure; an amount less than would pay interest at the prevailing rate on the amount for the time.

Receiver Foster has done all that he could do in the matter. He recommended that another assessment be made on the stockholders and that was as far as he could go. But one recourse remains to the depositors and that is to obtain relief through the courts. This course would be expensive but it might be profitable. Nearly \$100,000 were due to depositors in the bank at the time of the failure and only 40 per cent. of this has been paid. Little more can be expected if the matter be allowed to drop by the depositors.

A matter of more than \$50,000, the amount now due the depositors in the bank, is worth looking after. The depositors, at any rate the most of them, would be willing to contribute something to try the matter in the courts and there is little time to lose if this is to be done.

The Ripening of Pears.

It is a fact, not generally known, that pears will not ripen on the tree. The writer once had an orchard of 85 varieties, and not one of them was fit to eat as picked from the tree, although we might perhaps make an exception of the early Summer Doyenne, and even that was better if kept a day or two. The Bartlett pear will go rotten at the core, if left on the tree until it is mellow, whereas if picked at the right time and kept in a cool dark room for a few days it will ripen perfectly.

The proper time to pick all varieties of pears is ascertained by gently lifting them in a horizontal position. If fit to gather the stalk will part from the spur to which it is attached. Summer and autumn varieties can then be packed away in a dark, cool place, and they will there ripen in one to three or four weeks, according to the variety. Winter pears it is desirable to pack away in bran or dry sand to keep them from shriveling. They should be examined from time to time, and whenever the pear begins to get soft just near the stalk, they are fit to eat. Many pears, like the Easter Beurre, for instance, will be fit to gather in October and remain perfectly hard and tasteless until March. Then the pears will commence to get mellow and in a few days will become sweet and melting.

We remember hearing of a good joke due to ignorance of the way in which pears ripen. A large fruit grower in the northern part of the territory had grown pears for several years, but he said they would not ripen, however long they hung on the trees, so he was obliged to give them to the pigs. One day he happened to go into the barn and found a bucket of pears that had been omitted to be given to the pigs and had stood there quite a number of weeks. What was his surprise to find them beautifully mellow and sweet. Needless to say that in future years the pigs got no pears.—Las Cruces Farm and Orchard.

The Citizen and the Optic.

Two of the prominent papers of New Mexico look at the political situation in a very different light. The following is self explanatory:

After scouring the whole territory for a man willing to accept the nomination, the delegates gave up the search about 3 o'clock, this morning, and went to bed. Every man who has ever been prominently mentioned in connection with the place, was offered the honor, but all declined. Finally it was determined that Joseph would have to run again. He protested vigorously, on account of his important private interests, etc., but since he had been nominated by the party five times when nominations meant something, it was argued that it was his duty to take it now, and not shove it on some one else because there was no hope of success, and this was the verdict of the convention—Albuquerque Citizen.

It seems to this paper that if the approaching republican campaign for the congressional delegate, is to be fought along the lines indicated in the foregoing extract of the Citizen, then the republican party had as well retire before it begins. There is no political sagacity, not to speak of reliability and consequent influence for a republican journal, in willfully misrepresenting the opposing forces in its plans and prospects.

From all the Optic can learn, the democratic convention at Las Cruces was one of the largest, ablest and most enthusiastic ever held by that party in New Mexico; the territory was not scoured for a candidate, but candidates were numerous and active, seeking the nomination with avidity; Mr. Joseph was not unwillingly pressed into service as a dernier resort, but from the first he demanded the nomination as a due recognition of his services; and the verdict of the convention was that he should have the nomination because he sought and merited it. What good, then, can the Citizen expect to accomplish by deliberately misrepresenting these things?

If the republicans enter upon this campaign with the idea that the democrats are divided, disheartened, and likely to prove an easy prey, they will awake after the election in November to find that a silly over-confidence has been their ruin.—Optic.

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